

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 2 have been amended, claims 11-20 have been added. Claims 1-20 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

DRAWINGS

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83 (a). While it is respectfully submitted that the drawings previously showed the claim features in compliance with 37 CFR 1.83 (a), it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection in view of the claims as presented above.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

On pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The rejection is traversed, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In rejecting claims 1 and 2, the Examiner asserts that the specification does not describe "a spare area not in the group and for replacing defects of the group." While not specifically limited thereto, an example of the location of a spare area relative to the group is shown in FIG. 2B and described in paragraph 0024 and 0029, where a spare area 204 is after the group of zones 0 through q. As shown, the spare area 204 is not in the zones 0 through q. However, while it is respectfully submitted that the zones can be defined as a group, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to more closely conform to terminology used in the specification without limiting the scope thereof. As such, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-10.

PATENTABILITY OF NEW CLAIMS:

Claims 11-20 are deemed patentable due at least to their depending from corresponding claims 1 and 2.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is

requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

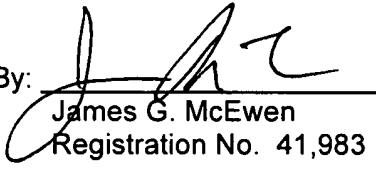
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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